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Approved For Release 2003/03/28 : CIA-RDP80T01497R000100080029-2

DDI-691-73

13 March 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director for Intelligence
SUBJECT : Newly Completed History in the Directorate
of Intelligence Historical Series.

25X1A 1. I am forwarding to you herewith the DDI's copy
(copy 2 of 4), signed by John Kerry King, of a historical
monograph by [] of OBGi entitled Cartographic
Support to Current Intelligence, 1951-1970.

25X1 2. This monograph treats the development of []
[] support to CIA all-source current
intelligence publications and presentations, from the
1951 creation of a small "outpost" production unit in the
Special Center in Q Building to the 1970 reorganization
that physically returned the [] to its 25X1
parent Division and made the entire Division an all-source
production unit. It discusses organizational changes,
the special managerial problems created by the involve-
ment of dissimilar units--ORR cartographers and OCI artist-
illustrators--in the support function, changes in source
materials and cartographic techniques, and product adapta-
tions to meet changing requirements during the two decades
covered. The author has been intimately involved in the
developments treated, and knows whereof he writes. I
consider this to be a useful contribution to the DDI Histor-
ical Series.

3. If you will return this DDI copy to me when you
have finished with it, I will maintain appropriate custody 25X1A
of it along with other completed histories by DDI authors.

[]
Chairman, DDI Historical Board

Attachment

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Newly Completed History in the Directorate
of Intelligence Historical Series.

25X1A 1. I am forwarding to you herewith the DDI's copy
(copy 2 of 3), signed by John Kerry King, of a historical
monograph by [] of OBGI entitled Geographic
Research Support to Scientific, Military, and Economic
Intelligence, 1947-70.

25X1 2. This monograph describes some 23 years of the
[] production activity in applying
geographic research techniques--some traditional, some
innovative--to problems of scientific, strategic military,
and economic intelligence. It supplements already-completed
25X1 [] historical monographs on geographic
research support to policy planning and to operational
planning.

3. Because of my close personal association with
many of the activities chronicled in this monograph, I
cannot refrain from a bit of philosophizing stimulated by
the first sentence on page 74. It reads

25X1 Throughout its history the usefulness of
[] efforts has been restricted
--and promises to continue to be so--by a
general lack of understanding of what a geo-
grapher is and what he can do.

This correctly identifies a persistent problem--inadequate
understanding by others of the nature of geography and,
therefore, of the contribution it can make. (This prob-
lem is not surprising, since geographers themselves are
constantly disagreeing as to the true nature and proper
scope of their "discipline.") But the sentence also
reflects, I believe, some of the confusion and conflict
that have existed as the result of differences among Divi-
sion members and their superiors concerning the relative

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values of "usefulness" and "recognition" as goals motivating Division activity. It is quite true that "support" activities such as many of those described in the attached monograph tend to be "low profile"; they are not likely to receive much acclaim or recognition except possibly from the immediate recipient of the support. Yet they can contribute vitally to the quality and utility of that recipient's finished product--which itself may be widely circulated and acclaimed. If one's goal is the amassing of "brownie points", the supplying of a supportive input to someone else's finished intelligence may not be very rewarding. But the more thoroughly a person understands the total intelligence process, the greater is his appreciation of the vital importance of those often unacclaimed supportive inputs--and the greater should be his satisfaction at having a role in supplying those inputs.

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Chairman, DDI Historical Board

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